

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 22-28 and 30-43 are pending in this application. Claim 22 is amended to incorporate the features of Claim 29. Accordingly, Claim 29 is canceled without prejudice. Claims 28, 33-37 and 39-40 are amended so as to be rewritten in independent form. Claim 42 is amended, support for which is found in the original Claim 22, Fig. 10 and in the specification at p. 23, l. 10-31. Claim 43 is new and finds support in Fig. 10 and in the specification at p. 25, l. 1-8. No new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action, the disclosure was objected to because of informalities; Claims 22-27, 32, 38 and 42 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,554,360 (Bildsoe); and Claims 28-31, 33-37 and 39-41 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated as allowable if rewritten independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter. Claim 22 is amended to incorporate the features of Claim 29. Claims 28, 33-37 and 39-40 are recast in independent form. Consequently, it is respectfully submitted the rejection of or objection to each of amended Claims 22, 28, 33-37, 39-40 and any claim dependent thereto is overcome.

As to amended Claim 42, the rejection in view of Bildsoe is respectfully traversed for the following reasons. Claim 42 is amended to recite "crossbeams" instead of "supports." Further, amended Claim 42 recites in part, "each load-carrying platform being supported by at least three crossbeams." The Office Action states Bildsoe shows at least three supports for the platforms. However, Bildsoe does not describe each pallet 12 as being supported by at

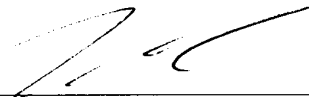
least three crossbeams. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of Claim 42 in view of Bildsoe is overcome.

Moreover, new Claim 43 recites that, "each crossbeam supports at least three load-carrying platforms and is rigidly connected to one of the at least three load-carrying platforms." Bildsoe fails to describe this feature. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that new Claim 43 is further allowable over Bildsoe by virtue of this feature.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the above comments, the outstanding grounds for rejection and objection are believed to have been overcome and the pending claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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